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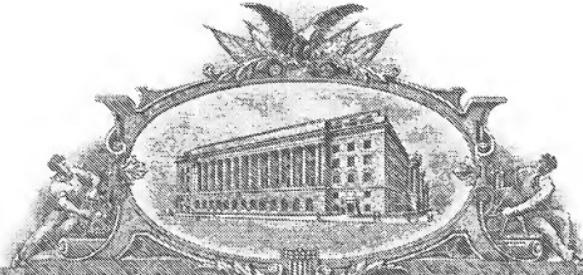
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 Docket: G&C 30435.158-US-P1  
 Title: PREPARATION AND ACTIVITY OF NOVEL PROSTATE CANCER DRUGS

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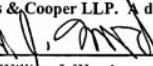
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## **PREPARATION AND ACTIVITY OF NOVEL PROSTATE CANCER DRUGS**

### **Statement of Government Support**

This invention was made with United States Government support under  
5 Department of Defense Grant DAMD17-98-1-8569. The Government may have certain  
rights to the invention.

### **Field of the Invention**

The present invention relates to methods and materials for assessing prostate  
10 cancer therapies as well as novel prostate cancer compositions as well as methods for  
making and using said compositions.

### **Background of the Invention**

Cancer is the second leading cause of human death next to coronary disease.  
15 Worldwide, millions of people die from cancer every year. In the United States alone, as  
reported by the American Cancer Society, cancer causes the death of well over a half-  
million people annually, with over 1.2 million new cases diagnosed per year. While  
deaths from heart disease have been declining significantly, those resulting from cancer  
generally are on the rise. In this century, cancer is predicted to become the leading cause  
20 of death.

Worldwide, several cancers stand out as the leading killers. In particular,  
carcinomas of the lung, prostate, breast, colon, pancreas, and ovary represent the primary  
causes of cancer death. These and virtually all other carcinomas share a common lethal  
feature. With very few exceptions, metastatic disease from a carcinoma is fatal. Moreover,  
25 even for those cancer patients who initially survive their primary cancers, common  
experience has shown that their lives are dramatically altered.

Adenocarcinoma of the prostate is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in men in  
the United States, and is the second leading cause of male cancer deaths (Karp et al., Cancer  
Res. 56:5547-5556 (1996)). Therapy for prostate cancer is typically initiated using hormone  
30 drugs that lower serum testosterone, often given in combination with competitive androgen  
receptor (AR) antagonists. Although initially effective at blocking tumor growth, these  
therapies eventually fail, leading to a drug resistant stage called androgen independent or

hormone refractory (HR) disease that is uniformly lethal.

Postulated mechanisms to explain resistance to hormone therapy can be separated into three general categories<sup>1,3</sup>. The first includes DNA-based alterations in the AR gene such as amplification or point mutations, which collectively only occur in a minority of patients<sup>4-7</sup>. A subset of these AR mutations map to the ligand binding domain (LBD) and are proposed to cause resistance by altering the response of the receptor such that noncanonical ligands like estrogen or hydrocortisone, or even AR antagonists like flutamide, behave as agonists<sup>8,9</sup>. Although their clinical association with antiandrogen resistance is strong, the overall frequency of AR amplification or mutation cannot account for most cases of hormone refractory disease.

The second category applies to the majority of patients without AR gene mutation or amplification who retain active AR signaling. Increased mitogen-activated protein kinase signaling mediated by oncogenes such as ErbB2 or Ras can cause ligand-independent activation of AR<sup>10,11</sup>. The kinases and substrates responsible for AR activation in this setting are unknown, but this is presumed to occur through downstream phosphorylation of AR-associated proteins or AR itself, analogous to the estrogen receptor (ER)<sup>12-14</sup>. Similarly, alteration in the balance of coactivators or corepressors can affect AR activation<sup>15,16</sup>, based on similar findings for ER<sup>17</sup>. The relative frequency of these events and their relationship to clinical drug resistance remain to be defined.

The third category of hormone resistance mechanisms is based on the concept that the pro-growth and survival functions of AR can be “bypassed” by alternative signaling pathways, such that AR is no longer relevant to disease progression. One example is upregulation of the anti-apoptotic gene Bcl-2 in late stage clinical samples<sup>18,19</sup>, but functional proof of a role in hormone resistance is lacking. The AR bypass hypothesis is also consistent with observations of AR gene methylation leading to decreased or absent AR expression in some HR cancers<sup>20</sup>, as well as reports that androgen induces growth arrest or apoptosis in certain contexts<sup>21,22</sup>.

Collectively, these data implicate multiple mechanisms by which prostate cancers acquire resistance to hormone therapy and highlight the continuing debate about the role of AR in late stage disease progression. Consequently, there is a need in the art for models that reproduce clinically significant aspects of this disease progression,

particularly the transition from the initial stage in the prostate cancer where the cancer cells are sensitive to hormone antagonists to the subsequent drug resistant stage. In particular, a well-defined and manipulatable cell based model is needed to dissect the molecular events associated with the progression from a drug sensitive to a drug resistant phase. There is also a need in the art for cell based prostate cancer models that reproduce the drug sensitive and/or drug resistant phases of cancers of the prostate that can be used, for example in the evaluation of new therapeutic modalities. In addition, there is need for the identification of novel compounds that can be used to inhibit the growth of prostate cancer cells, particularly hormone refractory prostate cancers. The invention disclosed herein satisfies this need.

#### Summary of the Invention

Using microarray-based profiling of isogenic prostate cancer xenograft models, we found that a modest (3-5 fold) increase in androgen receptor (AR) mRNA was the only expression change consistently associated with developing resistance to antiandrogen therapy. This increase in AR mRNA and protein was both necessary and sufficient to convert prostate cancer growth from a hormone sensitive to hormone refractory stage, and was dependent on a functional ligand-binding domain. Furthermore, AR antagonists displayed agonist activity in cells with increased AR levels, and this antagonist/agonist conversion was associated with alterations in the pattern of coactivators and corepressors recruited to the promoter of AR target genes. Increased levels of AR confer resistance to anti-androgens by amplifying signal output from low levels of residual ligand and altering the normal response to antagonists. The disclosure provided herein that is based upon these findings includes assays for examining the effects of therapeutic compounds on mammalian cells such as androgen independent prostate cancer cells and further provides insight toward the design of novel antiandrogens.

One embodiment of the invention is a method of testing compounds for an effect on a mammalian prostate cancer cell comprising contacting the compound to be tested with a the mammalian prostate cancer cell wherein the mammalian cancer cell expresses an exogenous wild type androgen receptor (AR) polynucleotide that encodes the AR polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1 such that the levels of mRNA in the cell that

encode the AR polypeptide or the AR polypeptide are at least about 2 fold higher than normal/endogenous AR mRNA levels in a mammalian prostate cell; and then comparing one or more characteristics of the mammalian prostate cancer cell to which the compound was administered with the same one or more characteristics of a control  
5 mammalian prostate cancer cell to which the compound has not been administered, wherein a difference in one or more of the one or more characteristics indicates that the compound has an effect on the mammalian prostate cancer cell.

Another embodiment of the invention is a method of examining the physiological effect of a compound on a mammalian prostate cancer cell, the method  
10 comprising contacting the compound to be tested with a mammalian prostate cancer cell, wherein the mammalian prostate cancer cell expresses either an exogenous wild type polynucleotide that encodes the AR polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1, or a polynucleotide that encodes the AR polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1 having a deletion, insertion or substitution of at least one amino acid in the AR polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1, such  
15 that the total levels of mRNA in the cell that encode the AR polypeptide or the total levels of AR polypeptide are at least 2 fold higher than normal/endogenous AR mRNA or AR polypeptide in the cell; and then examining one or more physiological characteristics of the mammalian prostate cancer cell to which the compound is administered, so that the physiological effect of the compound on the mammalian  
20 prostate cancer cell is examined. A related embodiment of the invention is a method further comprising examining the physiological effect of a plurality of compounds on the mammalian prostate cancer cell, wherein an observable difference in one or more physiological characteristics exerted by a first compound as compared to one or more physiological characteristics exerted by a second compound indicates that the first  
25 compound has a stronger or weaker physiological effect than the second compound on the mammalian prostate cancer cell. Typically the method is performed in a high throughput format. Alternatively, the method is performed in a low throughput format. Compounds tested in such assays are typically antagonists or agonists. In practice we define a drug as an AR antagonist when the drug inhibits or competes for the binding of  
30 a ligand or a stimulus and inhibits the biological function of the androgen receptor. A drug is defined as an AR agonist when the drug stimulates or activates the biological function of the androgen receptor.

Yet another embodiment of the invention is a method of testing one or more compounds for an effect on a mammalian cell, the method comprising contacting at least one compound to be tested with the mammalian cell, wherein the mammalian cell expresses an exogenous wild type or mutated protein of interest, such as the estrogen receptor, such that the total levels of mRNA in the cell that encode the protein of interest or the total protein levels of the protein of interest are at least 2 fold higher than normal/endogenous mRNA or polypeptide of the protein of interest, such as the estrogen receptor, in the cell, comparing one or more characteristics of the mammalian cell to which the compound is administered with the same one or more characteristics of a control mammalian cell to which the compound has not been administered, wherein a difference in one or more characteristics indicates that the compound has an effect on the mammalian cancer cell or mammalian cell. In such methods, the mammalian cell is typically a cancer cell, for example a breast, ovarian or prostate cancer cell. A related embodiment of the invention is a method further comprising examining the physiological effect of a plurality of compounds on the mammalian cell, wherein an observable difference in one or more physiological characteristics exerted by a first compound as compared to one or more physiological characteristics exerted by a second compound indicates that the first compound has a stronger or weaker physiological effect than the second compound on the mammalian cell.

Another embodiment of the invention is a method of treating a hormone refractory prostate cancer in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient an agent that decreases or affects the biological function of the androgen receptor by affecting the androgen receptor ligand-binding, nuclear translocation, or by affecting DNA-binding, or through altering formation of coactivator or corepressor complexes associated with the androgen receptor.

Another embodiment of the invention is a method of treating a hormone refractory prostate cancer in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient and an agent that decreases or affects the biological function of the androgen receptor through affecting the androgen receptor DNA levels, androgen mRNA levels, or androgen protein levels. In such methods, the androgen receptor protein level can be decreased through modulation of signal transduction pathways such as targeting EGF receptors that crosstalk to the androgen receptor. Alternatively, the androgen receptor

protein level is decreased by the induction of cellular degradation pathways such as proteosome degradation machinery. Alternatively, the androgen receptor protein level is decreased by dissociating the androgen receptor from heat shock proteins that maintain the androgen receptor integrity. Preferably the androgen receptor protein level is

- 5 decreased using androgen receptor antisense or mRNA knockdown technology. We consider that any one of these above manipulations or combination of any of these manipulations would affect the biological function of the androgen receptor. The preferred way of these methods would be to use an agent to disrupt or reduce the ligand binding of the androgen receptor

10 Another embodiment of the invention is a method of treating a hormone refractory prostate cancer in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient and an agent that decreases or affects the biological function of the androgen receptor through modifying the androgen receptor protein. Optionally, the androgen receptor protein is modified by modifying the polynucleotide or polypeptide sequence of  
15 the androgen receptor or by posttranslational modifications of the androgen receptor including but not restricted to phosphorylation, acetylation, ubiquitination, and sumolation.

Another embodiment of the invention is a method of treating a disease or condition, which is resistant to a drug, or a treatment, or combination of a drug and a  
20 treatment by increasing the concentration of the protein that is the target of the drug or treatment, the method comprising administering one or more agents or utilizing a technique that affects the biological function of the protein through means described in the paragraphs above. Typically the disease or condition is hormone refractory prostate cancer, in which the androgen receptor DNA, mRNA, or protein levels is increased in  
25 prostate cancer cells after surgical or medical castration, or treatments with anti-androgen therapy, or the combination of castration and anti-androgen therapy. In an illustrative embodiment, the disease or condition is hormone refractory breast cancer, in which the estrogen receptor DNA, mRNA, or protein levels is increased in breast cancer cells after hormone therapy such as treatments with tamoxifen or raloxifene.

30 Yet another embodiment of the invention is a method of inhibiting prostate specific antigen production in a mammalian prostate cancer cell (e.g. a hormone refractory prostate cancer), the method comprising contacting the cell with a

composition comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of compounds 4 and 5 shown in Example 6, so that prostate specific antigen production in the prostate cancer cell is inhibited. A related embodiment of the invention is method of inhibiting the growth of a human prostate cancer cell, the method comprising contacting the cell  
5 with a composition comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of compounds 4 and 5 shown in Example 6, such that growth of the prostate cancer cell is inhibited. Another related another embodiment of the invention is a method of antagonizing the function of the ligand binding domain of the AR polypeptide in a prostate cancer cell, the method comprising contacting the cell with a compound  
10 selected from the group consisting of compounds 4 and 5 shown in Example 6, such that the function of the ligand binding domain of the AR is antagonized.

Yet another embodiment of the invention is a method of antagonizing the effect of an androgen on a function of the ligand binding domain of the AR polypeptide in a prostate cancer cell, the method comprising contacting the cell with a androgen  
15 antagonist compound selected from the group consisting of compounds 4 and 5 shown in Example 6, such that the effect of an androgen on a function of the ligand binding domain of the AR polypeptide is antagonized.

Another embodiment of the invention is a composition comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of compounds 4 and 5 shown in Example 6. A related embodiment is a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of compounds 4 and 5 shown in Example 6. Certain embodiments of the invention include methods of administering these compounds, for example to an individual having a prostate cancer. In view of their similarity with chemical structure of (Casodex), certain methods used in administering this compound  
20 can be used in the administration of the novel compounds disclosed herein (see, e.g. U.S. Patent Nos. 5,985,868, 6,479,063 and 6,506,607 which are incorporated herein by reference).

In a further embodiment of the invention, there are provided articles of manufacture and kits containing materials useful for examining compounds such as AR  
30 agonists or antagonists and/or the AR antagonists of the invention. The article of manufacture comprises a container with a label. Suitable containers include, for example, bottles, vials, and test tubes. The containers may be formed from a variety of materials

such as glass or plastic. The label on the container may indicate directions for either *in vivo* or *in vitro* use, such as those described above. The kit of the invention comprises the container described above and a second container comprising a buffer. It may further include other materials desirable from a commercial and user standpoint, including other buffers, diluents, filters, needles, syringes, and package inserts with instructions for use.

5

#### Brief Description of the Figures

10       **Figure 1 – AR expression in HS and HR xenografts** Top, normalized microarray values for *AR* probe sets one and two (Affymetrix IDs 1577 and 1578, respectively) are shown for pools of tumors from each of the fourteen xenografts. Bottom, AR Western blot from one tumor of each xenografts' pool lysed in 2% SDS. AR protein expression in HS LUCaP35 was evident upon longer exposures.

15

**Figure 2 – AR overexpression is sufficient to cause HR progression** (a) Western blot of vector-infected and AR-infected LNCaP. (b and c) HS LNCaP stably overexpressing Flag-tagged, wildtype, human AR or a vector control were androgen-starved by growth in charcoal-stripped serum for 4-5 d.  $5 \times 10^4$  cells were plated per well in media containing 10% charcoal-stripped serum supplemented with either 0, 20 or 100 pM R1881 (b) or in media containing 10% full serum and either 0 or 10  $\mu$ M bicalutamide (c). After 2 weeks, colonies were visualized with crystal violet staining. (d)  $1 \times 10^6$  LAPC4 vector-infected cells (grey) or AR-infected cells (red) were grown subcutaneously in the flank of SCID mice which were either intact (circles,  $n = 8$ ) or castrated (triangles,  $n = 12$ ). Tumor incidence, defined as a tumor reaching  $40 \text{ mm}^3$ , was followed over time. (e) Inset, western blot of vector-infected and AR-infected LAPC4. (f)  $2 \times 10^6$  LNCaP vector-infected cells (grey) or AR-infected cells (red) were grown subcutaneously in the flank of SCID mice which were either intact (circles,  $n = 8$ ) or castrated (triangles,  $n = 12$ ). Tumor incidence, defined as a tumor reaching  $40 \text{ mm}^3$ , was followed over time.

20

**Figure 3 – AR expression is necessary for HS-to-HR progression** (a) Schematic of the lentivirus which expresses GFP and a shRNA directed against *AR*. (b)  $2 \times 10^5$  HR LAPC4 cells infected with either the shRNA-expressing (blue,  $n = 8$ ) or control virus (grey,  $n = 8$ ) were implanted subcutaneously into the flanks of castrated male mice and tumor volume measured weekly (\* signifies  $P < 0.05$ , *t*-test). Right inset, western

5 blot of shRNA-expressing and control (empty vector) cells. Left inset, two tumors from each group, approximately 500 mm<sup>3</sup> were explanted and analyzed by flow cytometry for the percentage of GFP-positive cells (M1 gate). Shown is a representative sample from each (control virus, top; AR shRNA virus, bottom). (c) 5 x 10<sup>4</sup> HR LNCaP cells  
infected with either the shRNA-expressing (blue, n = 8) or control virus (grey, n = 8)  
were implanted subcutaneously into the flanks of castrated male mice and tumor volume  
(± SEM) measured weekly. Inset, western blot of shRNA-expressing and control  
(empty vector) cells.

10 **Figure 4 – AR promotes HR progression through a ligand-dependent,  
genotropic mechanism** (a) Mutant or wildtype AR constructs were transfected into AR-null cells (COS7) and androgen-starved for 48 h. Cells were then incubated with increasing amounts of <sup>3</sup>H-R1881 in the presence or absence of 100-fold excess of cold R1881 and bound ligand was measured by scintillation counting. (b and e) LNCaP cells  
expressing the various AR LBD (b) or genotropic (e) mutants were assayed for HR  
15 growth *in vitro* using either the low-androgen sensitization (light blue) or antagonist  
resistance (crimson) assay as previously described in 2a. For each, the y-axis is the ratio  
of the number of colonies of the mutant to the vector control at day 14. All experiments  
were done in duplicate with a representative example shown. Inset, western blot of  
LNCaP cells stably expressing the mutant AR constructs. (c) 1 x 10<sup>6</sup> LNCaP cells  
20 overexpressing the various AR cDNAs (n = 10) or a vector control (n = 10) were  
implanted into the flanks of castrated male SCID mice and tumor volume (± SEM) was  
measured over time. (d) Confocal immunofluorescence performed with a FLAG-  
specific antibody on LNCaP cells stably expressing FLAG-tagged, triple point mutant,  
K618, 632, 633M (ΔNLS) or wildtype AR.

25 **Figure 5 – Increased AR expression converts antagonists to agonists** (a and c)  
LAPC4 cells overexpressing AR or a GFP control were androgen-starved for 5 d with charcoal-stripped serum and then challenged with bicalutamide (a) or cyproterone acetate (c) for 96 h. PSA and  $\beta$ -actin message was assayed using semiquantitative RT-PCR. (b and e) Secreted PSA after 48 hour challenge with bicalutamide (b) or 17 $\beta$ -estradiol (e) was measured via ELISA. (d) LNCaP cells stably infected with an AR-expressing or control virus (Neo) were androgen-starved for 5 d and then challenged for 48 h with bicalutamide. PSA and  $\beta$ -actin were measured as in b. (f) LNCaP cells stably

infected with the AR-expressing virus or the vector control were starved for 5 d and then challenged with either vehicle (V), 10  $\mu$ M bicalutamide (B), 100 pM R1881 (R) or 1 nM DHT (D). After 1 h, cells were harvested and processed for chromatin immunoprecipitation<sup>21</sup>.

5           **Figure 6 – Increased AR expression globally converts antagonists to weak agonists** (a) Diagram of microarray experiment. (b) Duplicates for bicalutamide or vehicle treatment were averaged and queried for the number of probe sets induced 2-fold,  $P < 0.05$  with a minimum expression of 500 in at least one sample. (c) Change in expression of the 48 probe sets in AR-overexpressing (aqua) or control cells (red) in  
10 response to bicalutamide. (d) Change in expression of the 48 probe sets in response to increasing doses of R1881. (e) Dataset was analyzed for the number of probe sets induced 2-fold with a minimum expression of 500 in response to either bicalutamide or R1881 (lack of duplicates for R1881 sample precluded using statistical significance – the relaxed criteria results in 58 bicalutamide-induced probe sets as opposed to the original  
15 list of 48). The results are shown in the graph (right) color coded by the Venn diagram (left). (f) Probe sets with low variability (standard deviation  $\leq 100$  and/or coefficient of variation  $\leq 50\%$ ) were filtered out with the remaining probe sets being used in an unsupervised clustering algorithm to identify related subgroups amongst the nine samples.

20           **Supplementary Fig. 1 – Expression profiling of seven HS/HR xenografts** (a) Seven 0.5 cm<sup>3</sup> tumors from each xenograft, grown in either intact (HS) or castrated (HR) mice, were pooled and total RNA was extracted to generate a single sample. After processing, the cRNA was hybridized to the Affymetrix U95A chip and the microarray data was analyzed by Microarray Suite. Background elements which did not significantly  
25 vary (standard deviation  $< 1000$  and coefficient of variation  $< 1$ ) or were not detected in any of the samples (defined as perfect match hybridization not significantly different than mismatch control signal intensity) were filtered out. The remaining elements, representing 1,056 genes, were then used by an unsupervised learning algorithm to generate a hierarchical clustering diagram. (b) The microarray data, obtained as  
30 described in a, was reanalyzed using Microarray Suite whereby each pair was condensed into a single dataset that represents the ratio in expression between each HS xenograft and its HR counterpart. In addition, using a number of parameters as defined by

Microarray Suite software such as fold-change, absolute signal intensity and the confidence in each probe set given by perfect match/mismatch ratios, elements from the condensed dataset were assigned an independent designation of increase (I), marginal increase (MI), no change (NC), marginal decrease (MD) or decrease (D). Elements

- 5 assessed as NC in all of the xenograft pairs were filtered out to generate a list of 3,774 genes that was then used by an unsupervised learning algorithm to generate a hierarchical clustering diagram. (c) Each of the designations described in b was assigned a value ranging from +1 (I) to -1 (D) and a score for each element was produced by summing the values across each of the seven HS/HR xenograft pairs. Elements with the highest  
10 absolute scores are shown.

Supplementary Fig. 2 – 48 bicalutamide-induced probe sets in LNCaP-AR cells.

Supplementary Fig. 3 – Model of prostate cancer progression Hormone therapy, consisting of androgen-lowering drugs and competitive AR antagonists, decreases the number of active receptors leading to a clinical response (HS disease).  
15 Failure of therapy (HR disease) results from increased receptor level which inverts the response to antagonists and amplifies the response to all ligands – residual androgens, antagonists and other steroids.

20 Detailed Description of the Invention

Unless otherwise defined, all terms of art, notations and other scientific terms or terminology used herein are intended to have the meanings commonly understood by those of skill in the art to which this invention pertains. In some cases, terms with commonly understood meanings are defined herein for clarity and/or for ready reference, and the inclusion of such definitions herein should not necessarily be construed to represent a substantial difference over what is generally understood in the art. Many of the techniques and procedures described or referenced herein are well understood and commonly employed using conventional methodology by those skilled in the art, such as, for example, the widely utilized molecular cloning methodologies  
25 described in see Ausubel et al., Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, Wiley Interscience Publishers, (1995) and Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual 2nd. edition (1989) Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor,  
30

N.Y. As appropriate, procedures involving the use of commercially available kits and reagents are generally carried out in accordance with manufacturer defined protocols and/or parameters unless otherwise noted.

As used herein, the term "polynucleotide" means a polymeric form of nucleotides of at least about 10 bases or base pairs in length, either ribonucleotides or deoxynucleotides or a modified form of either type of nucleotide, and is meant to include single and double stranded forms of DNA.

As used herein, the term "polypeptide" means a polymer of at least about 6 amino acids. Throughout the specification, standard three letter or single letter designations for amino acids are used.

The terms "agonist" and "agonistic" when used herein refer to a molecule which is capable of, directly or indirectly, substantially inducing, promoting or enhancing biological activity or activation of a molecule such as AR. The terms "antagonist" and "antagonistic" when used herein refer to a molecule which is capable of, directly or indirectly, substantially inhibiting biological activity or activation of a molecule such as AR.

"Treatment" or "therapy" refer to both therapeutic treatment and prophylactic or preventative measures.

The term "therapeutically effective amount" refers to an amount of a drug effective to treat a disease or disorder in a mammal. In the case of cancer, the therapeutically effective amount of the drug may reduce the number of cancer cells; reduce the tumor size; inhibit (*i.e.*, slow to some extent and preferably stop) cancer cell infiltration into peripheral organs; inhibit (*i.e.*, slow to some extent and preferably stop) tumor metastasis; inhibit, to some extent, tumor growth; and/or relieve to some extent one or more of the symptoms associated with the disorder. To the extent the drug may prevent growth and/or kill existing cancer cells, it may be cytostatic and/or cytotoxic. For cancer therapy, efficacy *in vivo* can, for example, be measured by assessing tumor burden or volume, the time to disease progression (TTP) and/or determining the response rates (RR).

"Growth inhibition" when used herein refers to the growth inhibition of a cell *in vitro* and/or *in vivo*. The inhibition of cell growth can be measured by a wide variety of methods known in the art including those described herein. A "growth inhibitory agent" when used herein refers to a compound or composition which inhibits growth of a cell

*in vitro* and/or *in vivo*. Thus, the growth inhibitory agent may be one which significantly reduces the percentage of cells in S phase. Examples of growth inhibitory agents include agents that block cell cycle progression (at a place other than S phase), such as agents that induce G1 arrest and M-phase arrest. Classical M-phase blockers include the vincas  
5 (vincristine and vinblastine), TAXOL®, and topo II inhibitors such as doxorubicin, epirubicin, daunorubicin, etoposide, and bleomycin. Those agents that arrest G1 also spill over into S-phase arrest, for example, DNA alkylating agents such as tamoxifen, prednisone, dacarbazine, mechlorethamine, cisplatin, methotrexate, 5-fluorouracil, and ara-C. Further information can be found in The Molecular Basis of Cancer, Mendelsohn  
10 and Israel, eds., Chapter 1, entitled "Cell cycle regulation, oncogenes, and antineoplastic drugs" by Murakami *et al.* (WB Saunders: Philadelphia, 1995), especially p. 13.

"Mammal" for purposes of treatment or therapy refers to any animal classified as a mammal, including humans, domestic and farm animals, and zoo, sports, or pet animals, such as dogs, horses, cats, cows, etc. Preferably, the mammal is human.

15 The terms "cancer", "cancerous", or "malignant" refer to or describe the physiological condition in mammals that is typically characterized by unregulated cell growth. Examples of cancer include but are not limited to, carcinoma, lymphoma, blastoma, sarcoma, and leukemia. More particular examples of such cancers include breast cancer, ovarian cancer, colon cancer, colorectal cancer, rectal cancer, squamous  
20 cell cancer, small-cell lung cancer, non-small cell lung cancer, Hodgkin's and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, testicular cancer, esophageal cancer, gastrointestinal cancer, renal cancer, pancreatic cancer, glioblastoma, cervical cancer, glioma, liver cancer, bladder cancer, hepatoma, endometrial carcinoma, salivary gland carcinoma, kidney cancer, liver cancer, prostate cancer, vulval cancer, thyroid cancer, hepatic carcinoma and various types of head and neck cancer.  
25

Compositions of the invention can be combined with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. As used herein the language "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" is intended to include any and all solvents, dispersion media, coatings, antibacterial and antifungal agents, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, and the like, compatible with pharmaceutical administration. The use of such media and agents for pharmaceutically active substances is well known in the art. Except insofar as any conventional media or agent is incompatible with the active compound, such media can be used in the  
30

compositions of the invention. Supplementary active compounds can also be incorporated into the compositions. A pharmaceutical composition of the invention is formulated to be compatible with its intended route of administration.

Therapeutic compositions of the invention can be prepared by mixing the  
5 desired molecule having the appropriate degree of purity with optional pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, excipients, or stabilizers (see, e.g. Remington: The Science and Practice of Pharmacy, 19<sup>th</sup> Edition, Gennaro (ed.) 1995, Mack Publishing Company, Easton, PA) in the form of lyophilized formulations, aqueous solutions or aqueous suspensions. Acceptable carriers, excipients, or stabilizers are preferably nontoxic to  
10 recipients at the dosages and concentrations employed, and include buffers such as Tris, HEPES, PIPES, phosphate, citrate, and other organic acids; antioxidants including ascorbic acid and methionine; preservatives (such as octadecylmethylbenzyl ammonium chloride; hexamethonium chloride; benzalkonium chloride, benzethonium chloride; phenol, butyl or benzyl alcohol; alkyl parabens such as methyl or propyl  
15 paraben; catechol; resorcinol; cyclohexanol; 3-pentanol; and m-cresol); low molecular weight (less than about 10 residues) polypeptides; proteins, such as serum albumin, gelatin, or immunoglobulins; hydrophilic polymers such as polyvinylpyrrolidone; amino acids such as glycine, glutamine, asparagine, histidine, arginine, or lysine; monosaccharides, disaccharides, and other carbohydrates including glucose, mannose, or  
20 dextrins; sugars such as sucrose, mannitol, trehalose or sorbitol; salt-forming counterions such as sodium; and/or non-ionic surfactants such as TWEEN™, PLURONICS™ or polyethylene glycol (PEG).

#### A. Brief Characterization of Features of the Invention

The invention is based on the discoveries disclosed herein that a modest (3-5  
25 fold) increase in androgen receptor (AR) mRNA in prostate cancer cells was the only expression change consistently associated with developing resistance to antiandrogen therapy. This increase in AR mRNA and protein was both necessary and sufficient to convert prostate cancer growth from a hormone sensitive to hormone refractory stage,  
30 and was dependent on a functional ligand-binding domain. Furthermore, AR antagonists displayed agonist activity in cells with increased AR levels, and this antagonist/agonist conversion was associated with alterations in the pattern of

coactivators and corepressors recruited to the promoter of AR target genes. Increased levels of AR confer resistance to anti-androgens by amplifying signal output from low levels of residual ligand and altering the normal response to antagonists. The findings provide insight toward the design of novel antiandrogens.

5 One embodiment of the invention disclosed herein is a method of testing compounds for an effect on a mammalian prostate cancer cell comprising contacting the compound to be tested with a the mammalian prostate cancer cell, wherein the mammalian cancer cell expresses an exogenous wild type androgen receptor (AR) polynucleotide that encodes the AR polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1 such that the levels of  
10 mRNA in the cell that encode the AR polypeptide or the AR polypeptide are at least about 2 fold higher than normal/endogenous AR mRNA levels in a mammalian prostate cell; and then comparing one or more characteristics of the mammalian prostate cancer cell to which the compound was administered with the same one or more characteristics of a control mammalian prostate cancer cell to which the compound has not been  
15 administered, wherein a difference in one or more of the one or more characteristics indicates that the compound has an effect on the mammalian prostate cancer cell.

A test compound which binds AR may then be further screened for the inhibition of a specific physiological activity (e.g. tyrosine kinase activity). Such an embodiment includes, for example determining whether said test compound inhibits the  
20 signaling of AR by utilizing molecular biological protocols to create recombinant contracts whose enzymological and biological properties can be examined directly. Enzymology is performed for example, by measuring tyrosine kinase activity in vitro or in ARS expressing cells using standard assays.

Certain discoveries and physiological processes associated with the invention are  
25 discussed below. In addition, in the examples below, certain compounds useful for example in inhibiting prostate cancer cell growth are described. Methods for making and using these compounds are further disclosed herein.

Expression profiling links increased AR levels to HR progression

30 To examine the range of HR mechanisms in a relatively unbiased manner, we performed global gene expression profiling on seven “isogenic” hormone sensitive (HS) and HR human prostate cancer xenograft pairs (14 total xenografts). All HR sublines

were derived directly from their HS parental lines by passage in castrate mice and compared with HS tumors with similar passage numbers in intact mice<sup>23-26</sup>. The microarray dataset was analyzed using a number of bioinformatic strategies, including unsupervised and supervised learning. First, we asked if any subgroups of HR prostate cancer could be identified using an unsupervised hierarchical clustering algorithm. Each HR xenograft clustered with its HS counterpart, consistent with the fact that these pairs are isogenic (**Supplementary Fig. 1a**). Since xenograft-specific expression signatures are likely to obscure gene expression changes responsible for the HS-to-HR transition<sup>27</sup>, we condensed each HS/HR pair into a single dataset representing fold-change in expression. Again, no closely related subgroups emerged (**Supplementary Fig. 1b**), suggesting either that different mechanisms were responsible for the HS-to-HR transition in each xenograft or that any common mechanism involved too few genes to influence the clustering pattern. We explored the latter possibility using an algorithm to identify any elements that consistently changed during the HS-to-HR transition (**Supplementary Fig. 1c**). Remarkably, out of 12,559 probe sets, only one – directed against the *AR* cDNA – was differentially expressed in all seven HS/HR pairs (**Fig. 1**, top). Notably, the second highest ranked probe set, upregulated in five of seven pairs, was also directed against *AR*. Consistent with the RNA data, immunoblots showed higher levels of AR protein in HR tumors than their parental HS counterparts (**Fig. 1**, bottom). The fold-change in AR protein (based on analysis of individual xenograft tumors) did not perfectly correlate with the fold-change in *AR* mRNA (based on expression analysis of pools of tumors for each xenograft), possibly due to sample-to-sample variation. Alternatively, post-transcriptional mechanisms may affect steady state AR protein levels<sup>28</sup>. Nonetheless, these data raise the possibility of a common final mechanism of resistance to hormone therapy.

#### Increased AR levels are sufficient for HR progression

To determine if increased AR protein concentration plays a causal role in the HS-to-HR transition, we introduced an epitope-tagged wildtype *AR* cDNA by retrovirus infection into HS LNCaP human prostate cancer cells. The three-fold increase in AR levels in LNCaP-AR cells (**Fig. 2a**) mimics the expression difference observed in the LNCaP HS/HR pair studied in the microarray experiment. To test whether increased

AR expression causes the HS-to-HR transition, we designed two *in vitro* assays to mimic the clinical circumstances of HR disease. The first measures the ability to grow in low androgen concentrations; the second measures growth in the presence of the antiandrogen bicalutamide. As expected, LNCaP cells infected with the empty vector failed to grow in steroid-depleted, charcoal-stripped serum unless supplemented with 100 pM of the synthetic androgen, R1881. In contrast, LNCaP-AR cells grew in at least 80% lower concentrations of R1881 (Fig. 2b). LNCaP-AR cells were also resistant to bicalutamide (Fig. 2c). Next, we asked if increased AR expression was sufficient, *in vivo*, to confer resistance to hormone therapy achieved through surgical castration using two xenograft models, LNCaP and LAPC4. HS LAPC4 cells were infected with AR lentivirus, demonstrated to express about three-fold more AR protein than vector-infected controls (Fig. 2d, inset), then implanted into the flanks of intact or castrated male SCID mice. AR overexpression shortened the latency of tumor formation by more than 50% in castrated animals in the LAPC4 and LNCaP models (Fig. 2d,e).

15

#### Increased AR levels are necessary for HR progression

We used stable RNA interference to address the reciprocal question of whether the increase in AR expression observed in HR xenografts was necessary for developing resistance to hormone therapy. Knockdown of AR levels in HR LAPC4 cells was achieved using a lentivirus vector expressing a short hairpin RNA (shRNA) against AR *cis*-linked with a GFP-expression cassette (Fig. 3a). After implantation into the flanks of castrated male mice, AR shRNA-infected tumors grew more slowly than vector-infected controls (Fig. 3b). Moreover, those tumors that did grow did not express GFP when compared to vector-infected controls (Fig. 3b, bottom inset) and still expressed AR protein, indicating selection for cells that escaped AR knockdown. Parallel studies of AR knockdown in HR LNCaP sublines gave similar results (Fig. 3c).

#### HR progression remains ligand-dependent

To determine the mechanism by which increased AR levels cause HR disease, we considered two possibilities: (1) high levels of receptor lead to constitutive activation in the absence of ligand, consistent with a recent study of AR<sup>29</sup> (a ligand-independent model), or (2) high levels of receptor sensitize the cell to the residual amounts of ligand

remaining after testosterone lowering therapy (a ligand-dependent mass action model). To distinguish between these models, we introduced two AR mutations, N705S and R752Q, independently into the LBD to selectively impair ligand-binding without interfering with ligand-independent functions. N705S is associated with complete  
5 androgen insensitivity syndrome, whereas R752Q is found in patients with partial androgen insensitivity syndrome<sup>30</sup>. As expected, both mutations impaired ligand-binding in a radiolabeled R1881-binding assay (Fig. 4a). Consistent with disease severity, R752Q retained low levels of ligand-binding and transcriptional activity in a reporter assay, and serves as an internal control to ensure proper folding of at least one LBD mutant.  
10 Overexpression of either LBD mutant AR construct in LNCaP cells, even at levels approximately 10-fold higher than endogenous AR (Fig. 4b, inset), failed to promote HR growth at levels beyond the vector control in low androgen media, in the presence of bicalutamide (Fig. 4b) or in surgically castrated mice (Fig. 4c). These data establish  
15 that AR must bind ligand to confer HR growth and imply that a modest increase in receptor concentration permits AR to utilize the lower levels of androgens present in castrate patients. This conclusion also suggests that the widely used term “androgen-independent” may be a misleading description of HR prostate cancer.

Increased AR levels promote HR progression through genotropic mechanisms

20 The availability of these *in vitro* assays for AR function offered an opportunity to address the additional question of whether AR induces the HS-to-HR transition through genotropic or non-genotropic functions. Deletion of the nuclear localization signal (NLS) blocked nuclear translocation (Fig. 4d) and abolished HR growth in low concentrations of androgen or in the presence of bicalutamide (Fig. 4e). Similar results  
25 were obtained using a second AR mutant V581F that lacks DNA binding activity<sup>31</sup>. Finally, deletion of the polyproline region of AR reported to bind the SH3 domain of Src (ΔP AR)<sup>32</sup> had no inhibitory effect on AR function in these assays (Fig. 4e). Therefore, the previously reported non-genotropic effects of AR on bone growth and prostate cancer cell survival<sup>32-34</sup> are unlikely to play a role in resistance to antiandrogen therapy.

30

Elevated AR levels convert antagonists to agonists

The ligand-binding mutagenesis studies provide evidence for a mass action

model to explain resistance to androgen-lowering hormone therapy. If this mechanism is the sole cause of resistance, then suprapharmacologic concentrations of bicalutamide should overcome the excess levels of AR and block transcriptional activity. Surprisingly, we observed the opposite phenomenon when we examined the effects of high-dose  
5 bicalutamide on prostate specific antigen (PSA) expression in cells expressing excess AR. Bicalutamide showed typical antagonist activity in parental LAPC4 cells, as measured by inhibition of *PSA* mRNA and protein expression, but functioned as an agonist in LAPC4 cells expressing increased levels of AR (Fig. 5a,b). The antagonist-to-agonist conversion was not unique to bicalutamide or to the LAPC4 cell line, since similar  
10 results were observed using other AR antagonists such as cyproterone acetate (Fig. 5c) and flutamide and with LNCaP cells (Fig. 5d). In addition, increased AR levels conferred responsiveness to noncanonical ligands such as estrogen (Fig. 5e), reminiscent of the effects of the T877A AR LBD mutation in LNCaP cells<sup>8</sup>.

To determine if this conversion was peculiar to the *PSA* gene or was true for  
15 other androgen-regulated genes, we conducted a microarray experiment. LNCaP cells infected with an AR-expressing retrovirus or the empty-vector control were challenged with increasing doses of R1881 or 10  $\mu$ M bicalutamide and then processed for hybridization to the Affymetrix U133A chip (Fig. 6a). Bicalutamide induced the expression of 48 probe sets (defined as 2-fold increase,  $P < 0.05$ , 500 minimum expression) in LNCaP-AR cells, whereas no elements were significantly upregulated in control cells (Fig. 6b,c). The list was comprised mostly of androgen-regulated genes (Fig. 6d, Supplementary Fig 2) including the well known members, *PSA* and kallikrein 2 (*KLK2*)<sup>35</sup>. However, bicalutamide induced only a subset (<10%) of the total number of androgen-regulated genes (> 600 probe sets) (Fig. 6e, left). Upon closer examination,  
20 the bicalutamide-induced genes (in red) overlapped, for the most part, with the most highly induced, androgen-responsive genes (Fig. 6e, right). Consistent with this, unsupervised hierarchical clustering of the samples grouped the profile of genes induced by 10  $\mu$ M bicalutamide most closely with those induced by low doses (10-30 pM) of R1881 (Fig. 6f). Together, these data suggest that increased AR expression globally  
25 converts antagonists to weak agonists, and therefore leads to the induction of only the most androgen-sensitive genes.  
30

Antagonist/agonist conversion is associated with altered patterns of coactivator assembly

To address the mechanism by which bicalutamide gains agonist properties in the setting of increased AR levels, we performed chromatin immunoprecipitation experiments to define the components of the AR transcription complex on the promoters of two genes, *PSA* and *KLK2*, activated by bicalutamide in the microarray experiment. After exposure to the classic agonists R1881 (R) or dihydrotestosterone (D), AR and polymerase II were recruited to both promoters regardless of AR level (Fig. 5f), as expected from prior work<sup>21,36</sup>. AR was also recruited to both templates after exposure to bicalutamide in vector and AR-overexpressing cells, but polymerase II was present only in the setting of excess AR. However, in AR-overexpressing cells, the repertoire of coactivators recruited to these promoters by bicalutamide was more limited (e.g. SRC1 and not AIB1) when compared with R1881 or dihydrotestosterone. We also examined the effect of increased AR levels on promoter occupancy by corepressors. As expected, NCoR was recruited to both promoters in parental cells following bicalutamide treatment without evidence of histone acetylation or polymerase II recruitment. However, NCoR recruitment was reduced (*PSA* promoter) or absent (*KLK2* promoter) after bicalutamide treatment in cells with increased AR protein levels. Therefore, a modest change in the level of AR protein can shift the relative abundance of coactivators or corepressors assembled on the promoters of AR target genes, with resultant effects on transcriptional activity.

Discussion

The surprising result from our expression profiling was the universal upregulation of *AR* mRNA in all the HR xenograft models, a finding likely to have clinical relevance based on surveys of AR levels in patient material<sup>7,37</sup>. But can this simple model for HR progression be reconciled with prior work implicating other mechanisms? *AR* gene amplification could clearly result in increased AR levels, but this occurs in a minority of patients and cannot be invoked as the explanation for our 25 xenograft findings, since there was no increase in *AR* copy number during the HS-to-HR transition<sup>38</sup>. Studies of *AR* gene regulation have implicated AR itself as a positive 30 acting transcription factor that binds the *AR* gene and leads to increased *AR* mRNA

levels<sup>39</sup>. Therefore, other mechanisms postulated to give increased AR activity, such as increased kinase pathway signaling (ErbB2, Ras, MAPK) or altered coactivator/corepressor ratios, may also lead to increased AR mRNA levels, albeit indirectly. Thus, any one of a number of primary molecular events that alter AR activity  
5 could cause an increase in AR mRNA, suggesting a final common pathway for escape from standard hormone therapy.

One caveat is that our conclusions about AR are based on studies of HS xenograft models, nearly all of which have been derived from men with HR disease. The question of how HS growth is “restored” when such tumors are explanted into intact  
10 male mice is a long-debated paradox in the prostate cancer field, and the mechanism remains unknown. We previously provided evidence that such explants contain a mixture of HS and HR clones, and that HR sublines develop through clonal expansion under the selective pressure of androgen deprivation<sup>40</sup>. The HS clones that evolve from such explants may be HS only in relative terms, reflecting a transition state in the  
15 continuum between truly hormone-naïve prostate cancer (no prior exposure to antiandrogen therapy) and full blown HR disease. It remains to be determined whether AR upregulation is sufficient to confer HR growth to hormone-naïve cells. Newer transgenic or knockout models of murine prostate cancer may provide an opportunity to address this question in a “cleaner” experimental system<sup>41,42</sup>.

20 The simplest model to explain how increased expression of AR can confer resistance to anti-androgen therapy is mass action. According to this model, the 3-5 fold increase in receptor levels observed in our xenograft models can compensate for low ligand levels and restore AR signaling. However, the fact that increased receptor levels cause antagonists to function as agonists suggests another level of complexity. Our  
25 comparison of genes induced by bicalutamide to those induced by a range of androgen doses indicates that antagonists function as weak agonists in the setting of increased AR levels. Comparative analysis of the transcription complex assembled on the promoters of AR target genes revealed a potential mechanism. Specifically, a more limited repertoire of coactivators is recruited to AR target genes after stimulation with bicalutamide, suggesting that suboptimal ligands cannot assemble the optimal array of cofactors for maximal transcriptional activity (**Supplementary Fig. 3**). Because steroid  
30 receptor-antagonist complexes adopt a variety of conformations<sup>43,44</sup>, antagonist-bound

AR may be unable to bind the full complement of coactivator machinery.

The molecular basis for loss of antagonism is less apparent. Previous work has demonstrated that the agonist versus antagonist response of nuclear receptors like ER is altered by increased expression of coactivators (increased SRC1) or by decreased

5 expression of corepressors (decreased NCoR)<sup>45,46</sup>. Our data establish that increased expression of the nuclear receptor itself causes a similar outcome, perhaps by upsetting the balance of corepression and coactivation in the cell. Additional experiments examining each of these components are required to sort through these or alternative explanations.

10 The clinical relevance of antagonist/agonist conversion should also be considered. About 30% of men whose disease progresses during treatment with AR antagonists experience a paradoxical fall in serum PSA levels when the antagonist is discontinued, called anti-androgen withdrawal syndrome<sup>47</sup>. One proposed mechanism is mutation in the AR gene, based on the fact that flutamide functions as an agonist in cells expressing the T877A AR mutation<sup>8</sup>. Although compelling, this mechanism cannot account for all cases because recent estimates of the frequency of AR mutations in HR patients are too low<sup>5</sup>. Our findings suggest that patients with antiandrogen withdrawal syndrome may be those with the highest level of AR upregulation.

20 Perhaps the most important implication of this work is toward the development of novel antiandrogens. The fact that an intact LBD is required for AR to cause resistance to hormone therapy provides compelling rationale for the design of novel antagonists that exploit existing knowledge of this well defined binding pocket<sup>48</sup>. Because AR action appears to be mediated exclusively through genotropic mechanisms, one can also envision drugs that prevent AR nuclear translocation or impair assembly of  
25 AR transcription complexes on target genes. Finally, it will be important to determine if the mechanisms of antiandrogen resistance implicated here have relevance for other hormone-dependent diseases such as breast cancer.

#### Illustrative Methods Useful with the Invention

30

#### Selection and Transformation of Host Cells

Host cells such as prostate cancer cells can be transfected or transformed with expression or cloning vectors described herein for the expression of the human AR proteins and cultured in conventional nutrient media modified as appropriate for inducing promoters, selecting transformants, or amplifying the genes encoding the desired sequences. The culture conditions, such as media, temperature, pH and the like, can be selected by the skilled artisan without undue experimentation. In general, principles, protocols, and practical techniques for maximizing the productivity of cell cultures can be found in Mammalian Cell Biotechnology: a Practical Approach, M. Butler, ed. (IRL Press, 1991) and Sambrook et al., supra.

A wide variety of methods of transducing mammalian cells are known in the art, for example, using reagents and methods such as viral vectors (e.g. the retroviral vectors disclosed in the Examples below), lipids (e.g. lipofection), CaPO<sub>4</sub> and electroporation etc. Depending on the host cell used, transformation is performed using standard techniques appropriate to such cells. The calcium treatment employing calcium chloride, as described in Sambrook et al., supra, or electroporation is generally used for prokaryotes or other cells that contain substantial cell-wall barriers. For mammalian cells without such cell walls, the calcium phosphate precipitation method of Graham and van der Eb, Virology, 52:456-457 (1978) can be employed. General aspects of mammalian cell host system transformations have been described in U.S. Patent No. 4,399,216. However, other methods for introducing DNA into cells, such as by nuclear microinjection, electroporation, bacterial protoplast fusion with intact cells, or polycations, e.g., polybrene, polyornithine, may also be used. For various techniques for transforming mammalian cells, see Keown et al., Methods in Enzymology, 185:527-537 (1990) and Mansour et al., Nature, 336:348-352 (1988).

Suitable host cells for cloning or expressing the AR DNA in the vectors herein include various prostate cancer cell lines such as LNCaP lines, DU145 and TsuPr1, other transfecatable or transducible prostate cancer cell lines, primary cells (PrEC), as well as a number of mammalian cells routinely used for the expression of recombinant proteins (e.g., COS, CHO, 293, 293T cells).

30

Selection and Use of a Replicable Vector

The nucleic acid (e.g., cDNA or genomic DNA) encoding AR may be inserted into a replicable vector for cloning (amplification of the DNA) or for expression. Various vectors are publicly available. The vector may, for example, be in the form of a plasmid, cosmid, viral particle, or phage. The appropriate nucleic acid sequence may be 5 inserted into the vector by a variety of procedures. In general, DNA is inserted into an appropriate restriction endonuclease site(s) using techniques known in the art. Vector components generally include, but are not limited to, one or more of a signal sequence, an origin of replication, one or more marker genes, an enhancer element, a promoter, and a transcription termination sequence. Construction of suitable vectors containing 10 one or more of these components employs standard ligation techniques which are known to the skilled artisan.

The AR proteins may be produced recombinantly not only directly, but also as a fusion polypeptide with a heterologous polypeptide (e.g. the FLAG tag disclosed herein), which may be a signal sequence or other polypeptide having a specific cleavage site at the 15 N-terminus of the mature protein or polypeptide. In general, the signal sequence may be a component of the vector, or it may be a part of the AR DNA that is inserted into the vector. The signal sequence may be a prokaryotic signal sequence selected, for example, from the group of the alkaline phosphatase, penicillinase, lpp, or heat-stable enterotoxin II leaders. For yeast secretion the signal sequence may be, e.g., the yeast invertase leader, 20 alpha factor leader (including *Saccharomyces* and *Kluyveromyces*  $\alpha$ -factor leaders, the latter described in U.S. Patent No. 5,010,182), or acid phosphatase leader, the *C. albicans* glucoamylase leader (EP 362,179 published 4 April 1990), or the signal described in WO 90/13646 published 15 November 1990. In mammalian cell expression, mammalian signal sequences may be used to direct secretion of the protein, such as signal sequences 25 from secreted polypeptides of the same or related species, as well as viral secretory leaders.

Both expression and cloning vectors typically contain a nucleic acid sequence that enables the vector to replicate in one or more selected host cells. Such sequences are well known for a variety of bacteria, yeast, and viruses. The origin of replication 30 from the plasmid pBR322 is suitable for most Gram-negative bacteria, the 2 $\mu$  plasmid origin is suitable for yeast, and various viral origins (SV40, polyoma, adenovirus, VSV or BPV) are useful for cloning vectors in mammalian cells. A wide range of host-vector

systems suitable for the expression of AR are available, see for example, Sambrook et al., 1989, *supra*; Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, 1995, *supra*). Preferred vectors for mammalian expression include but are not limited to pcDNA 3.1 myc-His-tag (Invitrogen) and the retroviral vector pSRøtkne (Muller et al., 1991, MCB 11:1785).

- 5 Using these expression vectors, AR can be expressed in prostate cancer and non-prostate cell lines, including for example LNCaP, 293, 293T, rat-1, NIH 3T3 and TsuPr1. The host-vector systems of the invention are useful for the production of a AR protein or fragment thereof. Such host-vector systems can be employed to study the functional properties of AR and AR mutations or analogs.

10 Expression and cloning vectors will typically contain a selection gene, also termed a selectable marker. Typical selection genes encode proteins that (a) confer resistance to antibiotics or other toxins, *e.g.*, ampicillin, neomycin, methotrexate, or tetracycline, (b) complement auxotrophic deficiencies, or (c) supply critical nutrients not available from complex media, *e.g.*, the gene encoding D-alanine racemase for *Bacilli*.

15 An example of suitable selectable markers for mammalian cells are those that enable the identification of cells competent to take up the AR nucleic acid, such as DHFR or thymidine kinase. An appropriate host cell when wild-type DHFR is employed is the CHO cell line deficient in DHFR activity, prepared and propagated as described by Urlaub et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 77:4216 (1980). A suitable selection gene for use in yeast is the *trp1* gene present in the yeast plasmid YRp7 (Stinchcomb et al., *Nature*, 282:39 (1979); Kingsman et al., *Gene*, 7:141 (1979); Tschemper et al., *Gene*, 10:157 (1980)). The *trp1* gene provides a selection marker for a mutant strain of yeast lacking the ability to grow in tryptophan, for example, ATCC No. 44076 or PEP4-1 (Jones, *Genetics*, 85:12 (1977)).

25 Throughout this application, various publications are referenced (within parentheses for example). The disclosures of these publications are hereby incorporated by reference herein in their entirieties. In order to facilitate an understanding of various typical aspects of the invention, certain aspects of these incorporated materials are reproduced herein.

30 The present invention is not to be limited in scope by the embodiments disclosed herein, which are intended as single illustrations of individual aspects of the

invention, and any that are functionally equivalent are within the scope of the invention. Various modifications to the models and methods of the invention, in addition to those described herein, will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the foregoing description and teachings, and are similarly intended to fall within the scope of the invention. Such modifications or other embodiments can be practiced without departing from the true scope and spirit of the invention. However, the invention is only limited by the scope of the appended claims.

### EXAMPLES

10

#### EXAMPLE 1: TYPICAL MATERIALS

Oligonucleotide U95A and U133A gene arrays were purchased from Affymetrix. Charcoal-stripped dextran-treated fetal bovine serum was obtained from Omega Scientific. Bicalutamide was obtained from the UCLA Investigational Drug Pharmacy and dissolved in acetone. Cold and <sup>3</sup>H-R1881 were obtained from NEN Life Sciences. AR antibody N-20 (Santa Cruz) and Flag antibody M2 (Sigma) were used in the immunoblot assays. Secreted PSA was measured by ELISA (American Qualex). Protein extracts were prepared in high detergent buffer (2% SDS) to ensure total cell lysis.

#### EXAMPLE 2: TYPICAL DNA CONSTRUCTS AND PCR PRIMERS

pCSUACG (U6-shRNAA<sub>x</sub>AR;CMV-GFP) was constructed by ligating the *Bam*HI/*Eco*RI digests of pCSCG and the U6-shRNAA<sub>x</sub>AR PCR product. The U6-shRNAA<sub>x</sub>AR PCR was performed using a hU6-containing plasmid at a 60°C annealing temperature with primers:

25 5'GGGGATCCCAAGGTGGCAGGAAGAGGGCTATTTC-3' and 5'-GGGAAATTCAAAAGCACTGCTACTCTTCAGCATCTTGAATGCTGAAGA GTAGCAGTGCAGGTTTICGTCCTTCCAAGATATATAA-3'. pCSCA (CMV-AR) was created by subcloning the *Xba*I fragment of pSR<sub>x</sub>-AR into the *Nhe*I site of pCSCG. AR mutants were made by standard PCR-based site-directed mutagenesis 30 using the QuikChange Kit (Stratagene). ΔNLS contains three point mutations (K618M, K632M, K633M) previously shown to disrupt nuclear import<sup>49</sup>. ΔPro contains a deletion of amino acids 372-381, based on prior work<sup>32</sup>. ARR<sub>2</sub>Pb-Luciferase was kindly provided

by Robert Matusik (Vanderbilt). *PSA* RT-PCR performed with primers: 5'-GGTGACCAAGTTCATG-CTGTG-3' and 5'GTGTCCTTGATCCACTTCCG-3'.

EXAMPLE 3: TYPICAL *IN VITRO* AND *IN VIVO* GROWTH EXPERIMENTS

5 LNCaP (ATCC) and LAPC4 cells were maintained in Iscove's medium supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum. LNCaP-AR and LNCaP-vector were derived by infection with the pSR $\alpha$ -AR or pSR $\alpha$  retrovirus, respectively, and selection in 500 ng/ml of G418. LNCaP-AR, LNCaP-vector, LAPC4-AR, and LAPC4-vector in other experiments were derived by infection with the pCSCA or pCSC lentivirus,  
10 respectively, without selection (>90% infection). For *in vitro* experiments, LNCaP or LAPC4 cells stably infected with different constructs were androgen-starved by growth in charcoal-stripped serum for 3-5 d. 5x10<sup>4</sup> cells were plated per well in media containing 10% charcoal-stripped serum supplemented with various concentration of R1881 or in media containing 10% full serum with various concentration of  
15 bicalutamide. Colonies were visualized with crystal violet staining 2 weeks later. *In vivo* tumorigenicity was measured by injection of 5 x 10<sup>5</sup> LAPC4 or 1 x 10<sup>6</sup> LNCaP cells in 100  $\mu$ l of Matrigel (Collaborative Biomedical) subcutaneously into the flanks of intact or castrated male SCID mice. Tumor size was measured weekly in three dimensions using caliber as described<sup>26</sup>. AR knockdown was performed by infection of HR LAPC4 with  
20 shRNA AR lentivirus. Tumors which grew in castrated mice were explanted, and analyzed by flow cytometry for the percentage of GFP-positive cells. All mouse experiments were performed in compliance with the guidelines of the Animal Research Committee (ARC) of the UCLA.

25 EXAMPLE 4: TYPICAL MICROARRAY EXPERIMENTS AND DATA ANALYSIS

HS and HR xenograft pairs for the microarray study were collected from three institutions. LUCaP23, 35, and 41 were developed at University of Washington; CWR22 was developed by Case Western Reserve University and kindly provided by University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; LAPC4 and 9 were developed at the University of California at Los Angeles; LNCaP was purchased from ATCC and implanted into mice.  
30 The HS xenografts were either grown in intact nude mice or SCID male mice, and their HR counterparts were developed by serial passage in castrated male mice. Microarray

experiments were performed and data analyzed according to manufacturer's instructions (Affymetrix). We extracted total RNA from a pool of two to eight tumors with comparable sizes and serum PSA levels for each xenograft using TriReagent (Molecular Research Center) and RNeasy (Qiagen). For each sample, 15 µg of total RNA was used  
5 to generate double stranded cDNA and the cRNA was transcribed with biotin-labeled nucleotides (ENZO Diagnostics). The cRNA was fragmented and hybridized to U95A microarray (Affymetrix). Scanned images were used for absolute and comparison analysis (Affymetrix manual). The microarray data in Fig. 6 were generated through the Genespring program (Silicon Genetics).

10

EXAMPLE 5: TYPICAL CHROMATIN IMMUNOPRECIPITATION

LNCaP-AR or LNCaP-vector were androgen-starved and challenged with either vehicle, 100 pM of R1881 (R), 1 nM of DHT (D), or 10 µM of bicalutamide (B) for 1 h. Soluble chromatin was prepared after formaldehyde crosslinking and sonication. Specific  
15 IgGs against AR, N-CoR, PolII, Ac-H3/4, SRC1, TIF2, AIB1, and PCAF were used to immunoprecipitate protein-bound DNA fragments. After reversing the crosslinking, PCR reactions were performed to amplify the promoter regions of *KLK3/PSA* or *KLK2*<sup>21</sup>.

20

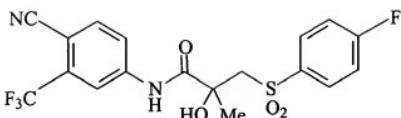
EXAMPLE 6: PREPARATION AND ACTIVITY OF NOVEL PROSTATE CANCER COMPOUNDS

A. Purpose of Example

The purpose of the example is to provide an illustration of the testing,  
25 development and identification of new chemical compounds for the treatment of prostate cancer, especially hormone-refractory (androgen-independent) prostate cancer.

B. The State of the Art prior to the Invention

There are many compounds which have been reported to be inhibitors of the  
30 ligand binding domain (LBD) androgen receptor (AR). Several have been used as drugs to treat prostate cancer, e.g., bicalutamide (Casodex) **1**, which is the current drug of choice for treatment of

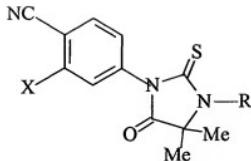


1

prostate cancer. Several more potent binders of the AR LBD have been identified, e.g., the thiohydantoins, RU59063 2 and BTID, 3 (see, e.g. Teutsch et al., *J. Steroid Biochem. Molec. Biol.* 1994, **48**, 111-119 and Van Dort et al., *J. Med. Chem.* 2000, **43**, 3344-3347).

We decided to carry out a study aimed at identifying novel analogues of compounds such

- 5 as 2 and 3 which would have other alkyl groups with final polar functionality in place of the 4-hydroxybutyl group (R in 2 and 3) which might form much stronger interactions, and even in some cases covalent interactions, with the various polar amino acid side chains of the LBD of the AR. Thus the state of the art was that some strong binders had been discovered but they had not been yet developed into prostate cancer drugs.

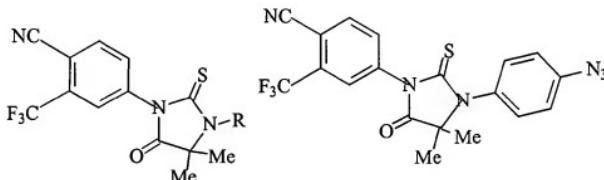


2 X = CF<sub>3</sub>R=(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>OH RU59063

3 X = I R=(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>OH DTIB

C. How the Invention Functions in Detail

We have prepared a series of compounds **4** based on the general structure **2** and have carried out biological testing which shows that these compounds inhibit the growth of a prostate cancer cell line. The biological data allows us to measure both agonist and antagonist effects and we find that the best compounds are pure antagonists, namely they bind strongly to the LBD of the AR and shut down the natural process of active cancer growth. In particular the 4-azido-



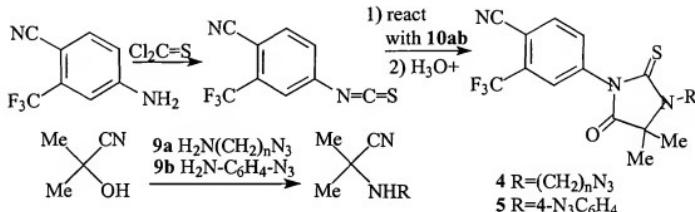
4 R=(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-N<sub>3</sub> n=3-8

phenyl derivative **5** has shown the best antagonist effects without any strong agonist effects.

D. The Best Way of Practicing the Invention

The preferred sequence for the chemical synthesis of these compounds is shown below. The commercially available aniline **6** is converted in one step into the

isothiocyanate 7. Commercially available acetone cyanohydrin 8 is converted into the two cyanoamines 10ab by reaction with the amines 9a ( $n=3-8$ ) and the aniline 9b. Addition of 10ab to 7 followed by treatment with mild acid produces the desired thiohydantoins 4 ( $n=3-8$ ) and 5 in good yield.



5

#### E. Advantages over Existing procedures

These compounds **4** and **5** show remarkable antiprostate cancer activity. The biological testing was carried out by measurement of the amount of prostate-specific antigen (PSA) produced by LNCaP cells. The IC<sub>50</sub> values of **4** and **5** for PSA expression are ten-fold lower than that for bicalutamide (2-3 times stronger) and the compounds seem to be full antagonists. Therefore they offer the potential for a better drug for the treatment of prostate cancer, namely they antagonize the effect of androgens on the AR and thus should greatly slow the progression of prostate cancer.

15 As shown above, we have prepared the compounds 4 and 5 and carried out the initial set of biological assays that show their potent binder and antagonist ability. This exciting set of compounds are relatively simple to synthesize and already have more potential than the well known heavily used antiprostate cancer drug Casodex.

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**Table 1: Androgen Receptor Polynucleotide and Polypeptide Sequences**

NM 000044 gi:21322251)

See, e.g. Chang et al., Science 240 (4850), 324-326 (1988)

5

**AR Polynucleotide sequence**

10

CGAGATCCGGGAGCAGCTTGTCTGGAGAGCgggACGGTCGGAGCAAGCCCAGAGGCAGAGGAGG  
CGACAGAGGGAAAAGGGCCGAGCTAGCCGCTCCAGTGTGTAAGGGAGCCGAAGGGACGCCACCGC  
CAGCCCCAGCCGGCTCCAGCAGCAGCCAACGCCCTCTGGAGCGGGGGGCTTCAAGGCGCCGCCCC  
15 GACTGCTCCCTTCTCTCGGTGAAGTTTAAAGACTCTAAAGACTCGGAGGAAGCAAGGAAAGTG  
CCTGGTAGGACTGACGGCTGCTTGTCTCTCCCTCCACCCCGCTCCCCCACCTGCCCTTCCC  
CCCCCTCCCGCTCTCTCTCCCGCAGCTGCGCTAGCTGCTAGCTGCAATGCAAGAAGGCTTAAAGGAGCC  
TTCTCCCGCACCGCCCGCCCGCCCGCTGGGCCAGCGCTGCCAGGCTTCAAGAGGTAAC  
CCCTTGGCTGCGAGCGGGAGCTAGCTGCAATGCAAGAAGGCTTAAAGGAGCCAGGGACTGG  
GGAGCAGCTTCAAGCTGAGCAGGCCACGCCGGCTTGAAGCTGACGGCAGAGAACCCTGTTT  
CCCCACTCTCTCCACCTCTCTGGCTTCCACCCCGCTAGTGCAGGACAGATCAAAAGATGA  
AAAGCAGTCAGGTCTCAGTAGCAGGAAAAAACAAACAAAAAACAAAAAGCCGAATAAAAAGAA  
AAAGATAAAACTAGCTTCTATTGACCTACTGAGCTGGACTGAACTGAGATTGGAAAGGTGAGGATT  
TGTTTTTCTTTAAAGATCTGGCATCTTTGAATCTACCTCTCAAGTATTAAAGAGACAGACTGTA  
20 GCCTAGCAGGGCAGATCTTGTCCACCGTGTCTTCTCTGACGAGACTTGGAGGCTGTAGAGCGC  
TTTTCGGTTGCTCCCGCAAGTCTCTCTCTGGACTCTCCCGCAAGGTGGGAGCTAGCTGAGC  
GACTACCGCATCATCACAGCGCTGTGAAGACTCTCTGAGCAAGAGAAGGGAGGGGGTTAGGGAA  
AGGTTGAAGATTCAAGCCAAGCTCAAGGATGGAAGTGCAGTTAGGGCTGGGAAGGGTCAACCTCGCC  
GCCGCTCAAAGACCTACCGAGGAGCTTCAAGAATCTGGCTCCAGAGCGTGGCCAGAGTGTACCAAGAAC  
25 CGGGCCCGAACGCCAGAGGCCGGCAGCAGCACCTCCCGCGCCAGATTGCTGCTGCTGAGCAG  
CAG  
TAGCCCCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGGTTGAGGTTCTCCCAAGGCCATCTGAGGCCCC  
CAGCTACCTGGTCTCTGGATGAGGAAACGCAACCTTCACAGCGCAGTCCGGCTTGGAGTCCACCC  
GAGAGAGGTTGCGTCCAGAGCCTGGAGCCGGTGGCCGAGCAAGGGCTGCCAGCAGCAGCTGCC  
30 AGCACCTCCGAGCAGGATGACTGCTGCGCCATCTGGCTCCCTGCTGGGGCCACCTTCCCG  
GCTTAAGCAGCTGCTCCCTGACCTTAAAGACATCTGAGCAGGAGCAGCACCATGCAACTCTCTCAG  
CAACAGCAGCAGGAAAGCAGTATCCGAAGGAGCAGCAGCAGCAGGGAGAGCAGGAGGCCCTCGGGGCTC  
CACTTCTCCAAGGACAATTACTTGGGGGACTTCGACCATTCTGACACGCAAGGAGTTGTGA  
AGGAGTGTGCGTCTCCATGGGCC

35

**AR Polypeptide sequence**

40

MEVQLGLRVPYPRPSKTYRGAFQNLQFQSVREVIQNPGPGRHPPEAASAAPPGASLLLQQQQQQQQQQ  
QQQQQQQQQQQQETSPRQQQQQQGEDGSPQAHRRGPTGYLVLDDEQQPSQPQSALCHPERGVPEPG  
AAVAASKLGPQLPAPPDDESSAFTSLSLGPTFGLSSADLKIDILSEASTMQLLQQQQQEA  
GSSSGRAREASGAPTSSKDNYLGGTSTISDNAKELKAVSVSMLGVLEALEHLSPGELQRGDCMYAPL  
LGVPAPRPTCPACLAEKGSLLDDSAKGSTDTEAESPFPKGGYTKGLEGESELGCGSAAAGSSGTL  
LPSTLSLYKGALDEAAAQYQRDYYNNFLALAGPPPPPPPHARIKLENPLDYGSAWAAAAAQCRY  
GDLASLHGAGAAGPGGSPSAAASSWHLTFTAEGCQLYGPCCGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG  
AVAPYGYTRPPQQLAGQESDPTADPVYPGGMVSVPVYSPPTCVKSEMGPWMDSYSPGYGDMLLETAR  
45 DHVLPIDYYPPQPKTCLICGDEASGCHYALTCGSGVFKRAEKGQKYLCASRNDCTIDKFRRKNC  
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IPVDGLKNQKFDELRYNFIAPDLYFNEYRMHKSRSYMSQCVRMRLSQEFGLWLQITPQEFLCMKALLFSI  
50 SHMVSVDPEMMIAIIISVQVPKILSGKVPIYFHQ

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of examining the physiological effect of a compound on a mammalian prostate cancer cell, the method comprising:
  - (a) contacting the compound to be tested with a mammalian prostate cancer cell, wherein the mammalian prostate cancer cell expresses:
    - (i) an exogenous wild type polynucleotide that encodes the AR polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1;
    - (ii) a polynucleotide that encodes the AR polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1 having a deletion, insertion or substitution of at least one amino acid in the AR polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1,
  - such that the total levels of mRNA in the cell that encode the AR polypeptide or the total levels of AR polypeptide are at least 2 fold higher than normal/endogenous AR mRNA or AR polypeptide in the cell; and
  - (b) examining one or more physiological characteristics of the mammalian prostate cancer cell to which the compound is administered, so that the physiological effect of the compound on the mammalian prostate cancer cell is examined.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising examining the physiological effect of a plurality of compounds on the mammalian prostate cancer cell, wherein an observable difference in one or more physiological characteristics exerted by a first compound as compared to one or more physiological characteristics exerted by a second compound indicates that the first compound has a stronger or weaker physiological effect than the second compound on the mammalian prostate cancer cell.
- 25 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the method of performed in a high throughput format.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the method of performed in a low throughput format.
- 30 5. A method of testing compounds for an effect on a mammalian prostate cancer cell, the method comprising,

(a) contacting the compound to be tested with a the mammalian prostate cancer cell, wherein the mammalian cancer cell expresses an exogenous wild type androgen receptor (AR) polynucleotide that encodes the AR polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1 such that the levels of mRNA in the cell that encode the AR polypeptide or the AR polypeptide are at least about 2 fold higher than normal/endogenous AR mRNA levels in a mammalian prostate cell;

5 (b) comparing one or more characteristics of the mammalian prostate cancer cell to which the compound was administered with the same one or more characteristics of a control mammalian prostate cancer cell to which the compound has not been administered,

10 wherein a difference in one or more of the one or more characteristics indicates that the compound has an effect on the mammalian prostate cancer cell.

6. A method of testing compounds for an effect on a mammalian cell, the method comprising,

15 (a) contacting the compound to be tested with the mammalian cell, wherein the mammalian cell expresses an exogenous wild type or mutated protein of interest, such as the estrogen receptor, such that the total levels of mRNA in the cell that encode the protein of interest or the total protein levels of the protein of interest are at least 2 fold higher than normal/endogenous mRNA or polypeptide of the protein of interest, such as the estrogen receptor, in the cell;

20 (b) comparing one or more characteristics of the mammalian cell of (a) to which the compound is administered with the same one or more characteristics of a control mammalian cell to which the compound has not been administered, wherein a difference in one or more characteristics indicates that the compound has an effect on the mammalian cancer cell or mammalian cell.

25

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the mammalian cell is a cancer cell.

30

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the cancer cell is a breast, ovarian or prostate cancer cell.

9. The method of claim 6, further comprising examining the physiological effect of a plurality of compounds on the mammalian cell, wherein an observable difference in one or more physiological characteristics exerted by a first compound as compared to one or more physiological characteristics exerted by a second compound indicates that
- 5 the first compound has a stronger or weaker physiological effect than the second compound on the mammalian cell.
10. A method of treating a hormone refractory prostate cancer in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient an agent that decreases or affects the
- 10 biological function of the androgen receptor by affecting the androgen receptor ligand-binding, nuclear translocation, or by affecting DNA-binding, or through altering formation of coactivator or corepressor complexes associated with the androgen receptor.
- 15 11. A method of treating a hormone refractory prostate cancer in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient and an agent that decreases or affects the biological function of the androgen receptor through affecting the androgen receptor DNA levels, androgen mRNA levels, or androgen protein levels.
- 20 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the androgen receptor protein level is decreased through modulation of signal transduction pathways such as targeting EGF receptors that crosstalk to the androgen receptor.
- 25 13. The method of claim 11, wherein the androgen receptor protein level is decreased by the induction of cellular degradation pathways such as proteosome degradation machinery.
- 30 14. The method of claim 11, wherein the androgen receptor protein level is decreased by dissociating the androgen receptor from heat shock proteins that maintain the androgen receptor integrity.
15. The method of claim 11, wherein the androgen receptor protein level is

decreased using androgen receptor antisense or mRNA knockdown technology.

16. A method of treating a hormone refractory prostate cancer in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient and an agent that decreases or affects  
5 the biological function of the androgen receptor through modifying the androgen receptor protein.
17. The method of claim 16, wherein the androgen receptor protein is modified by modifying the polynucleotide or polypeptide sequence of the androgen receptor or by  
10 posttranslational modifications of the androgen receptor including but not restricted to phosphorylation, acetylation, ubiquitination, and sumolation.
18. A method of treating a disease or condition, which is resistant to a drug, or a treatment, or combination of a drug and a treatment by increasing the concentration of  
15 the protein that is the target of the drug or treatment, the method comprising administering one or more agents or utilizing a technique that affects the biological function of the protein through means described in claims 9, 10 or 15.
19. The method of claim 18, wherein the disease or condition is hormone refractory prostate cancer, in which the androgen receptor DNA, mRNA, or protein levels is increased in prostate cancer cells after surgical or medical castration, or treatments with anti-androgen therapy, or the combination of castration and anti-androgen therapy.  
20
20. The method of claim 18, wherein the disease or condition is hormone refractory breast cancer, in which the estrogen receptor DNA, mRNA, or protein levels is increased in breast cancer cells after hormone therapy such as treatments with tamoxifen or raloxifene.  
25
21. A method of inhibiting prostate specific antigen production in a mammalian prostate cancer cell, the method comprising contacting the cell with a composition comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of compounds 4 and 5 shown in Example 6, so that prostate specific antigen production in the prostate cancer  
30

cell is inhibited.

22. A method of inhibiting the growth of a human prostate cancer cell, the method comprising contacting the cell with a composition comprising a compound selected  
5 from the group consisting of compounds 4 and 5 shown in Example 6, such that growth of the prostate cancer cell is inhibited.
23. A method of antagonizing the function of the ligand binding domain of the AR polypeptide in a prostate cancer cell, the method comprising contacting the cell with a compound selected from the group consisting of compounds 4 and 5 shown in Example  
10 6, such that the function of the ligand binding domain of the AR is antagonized.
24. A method of antagonizing the effect of an androgen on a function of the ligand binding domain of the AR polypeptide in a prostate cancer cell, the method comprising  
15 contacting the cell with a androgen antagonist compound selected from the group consisting of compounds 4 and 5 shown in Example 6, such that the effect of an androgen on a function of the ligand binding domain of the AR polypeptide is antagonized.
- 20 25. The method of claim 21, 22, 23 or 24, wherein the prostate cancer cell is a hormone refractory prostate cancer cell.
26. A composition comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of compounds 4 and 5 shown in Example 6.  
25
27. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of compounds 4 and 5 shown in Example 6.

METHODS AND MATERIALS FOR ASSESSING PROSTATE CANCER  
THERAPIES

Abstract of the Disclosure

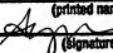
- 5        Using microarray-based profiling of isogenic prostate cancer xenograft models, we found that a modest (3-5 fold) increase in androgen receptor (AR) mRNA was the only expression change consistently associated with developing resistance to antiandrogen therapy. Increased levels of AR confer resistance to anti-androgens by amplifying signal output from low levels of residual ligand and altering the normal  
10      response to antagonists. This disclosure provides cell based assays for use in the examination of new therapeutic modalities and provides insight toward the design of novel antiandrogens. The disclosure also provides compounds useful for example in inhibiting prostate cancer cell growth as well as methods for making and using said compounds.

15

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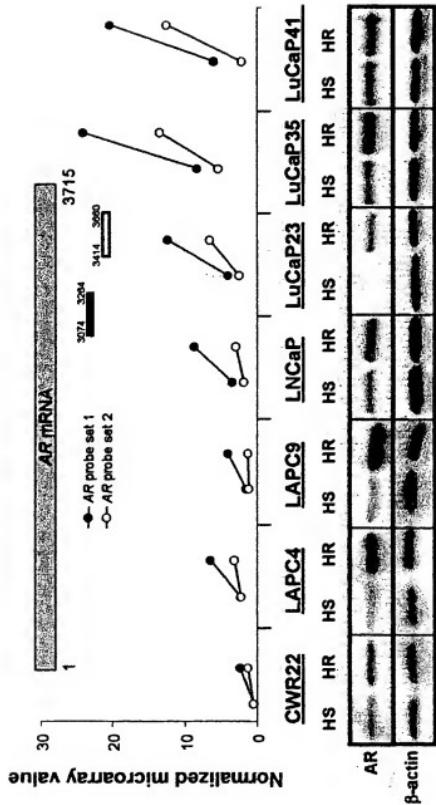
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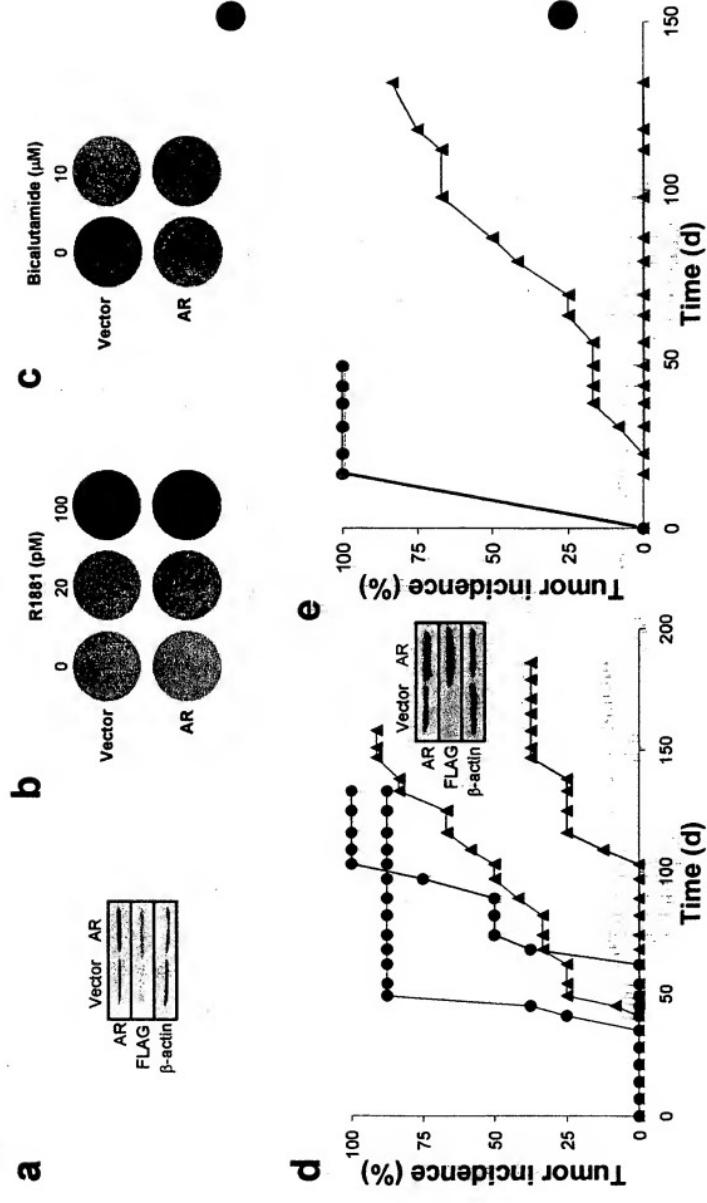
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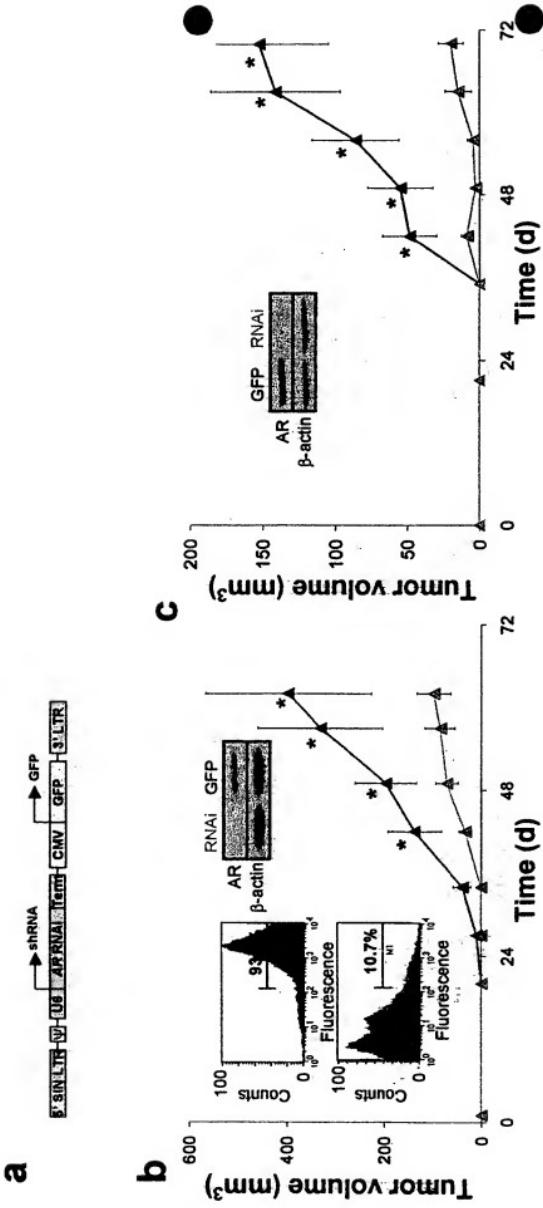
# Figure 1



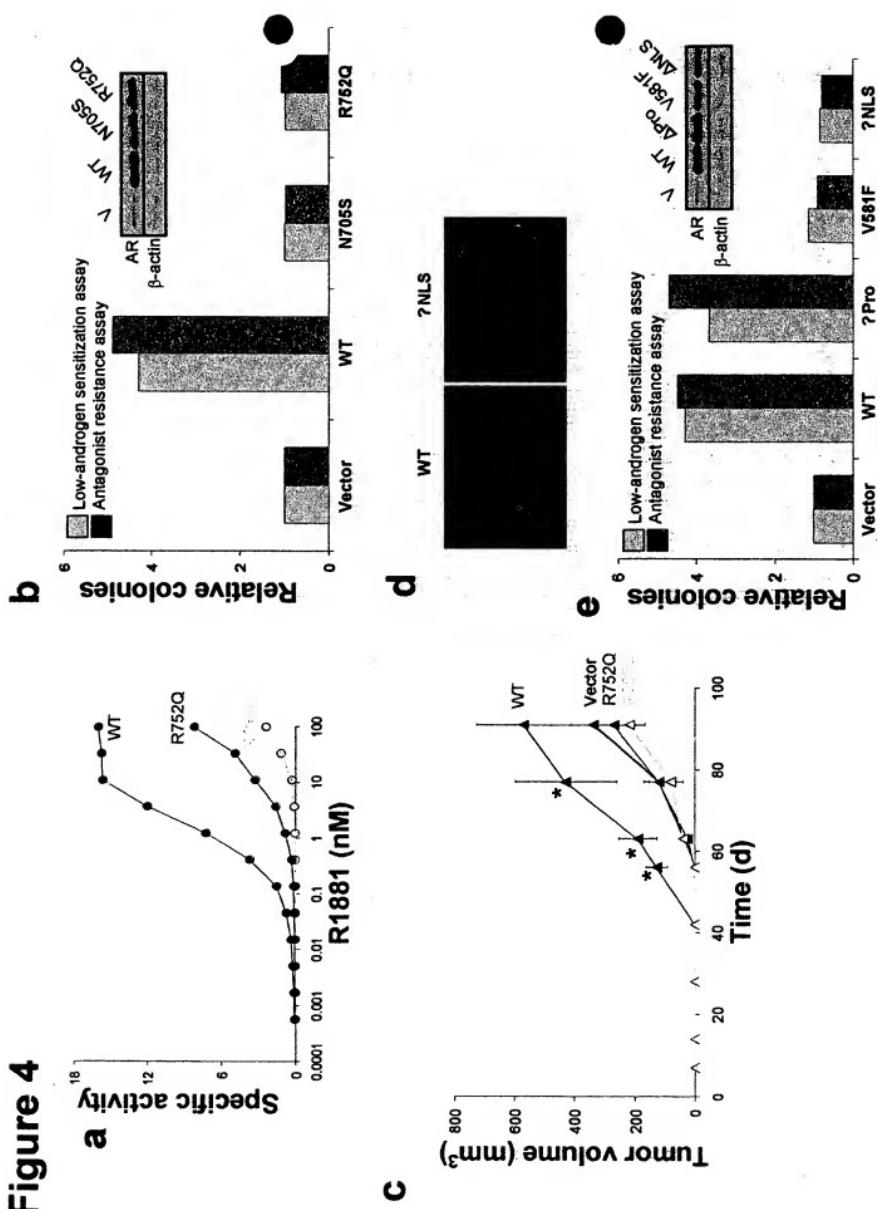
**Figure 2**



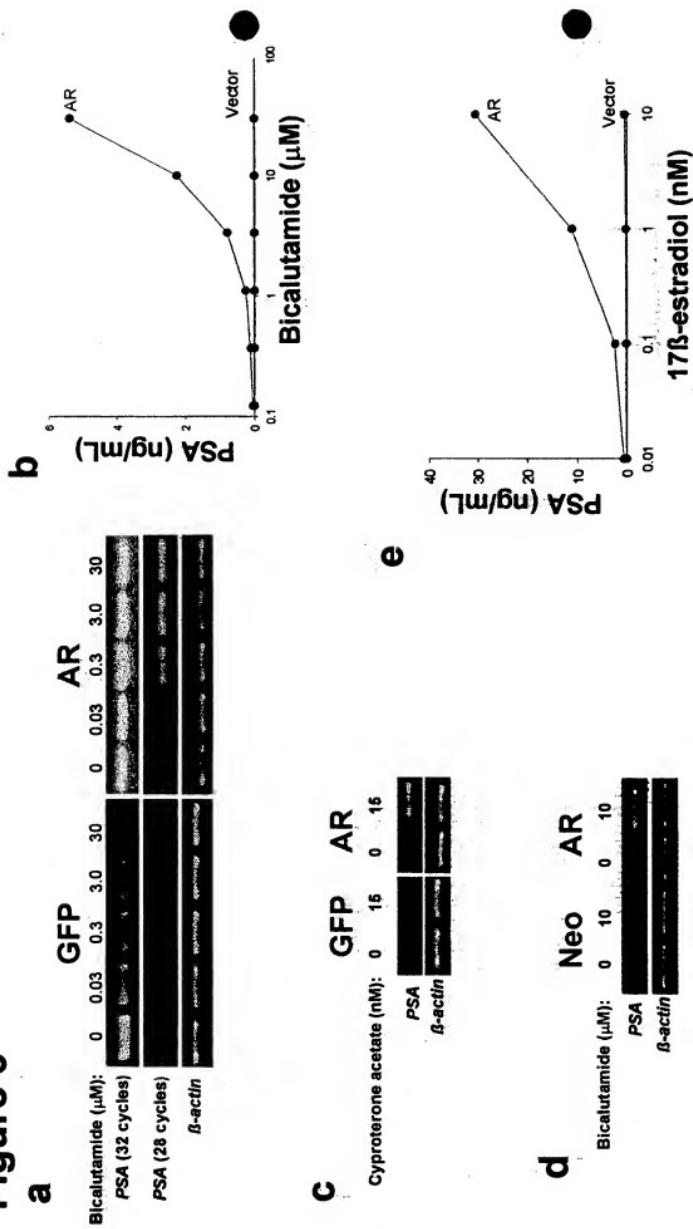
**Figure 3**



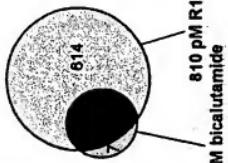
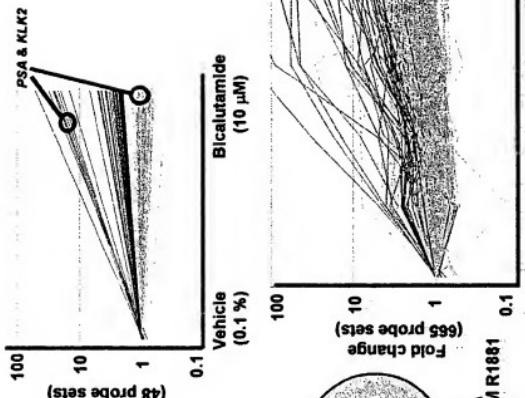
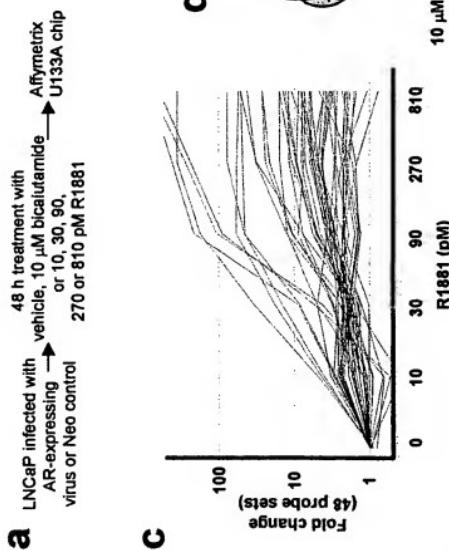
**Figure 4**



**Figure 5**



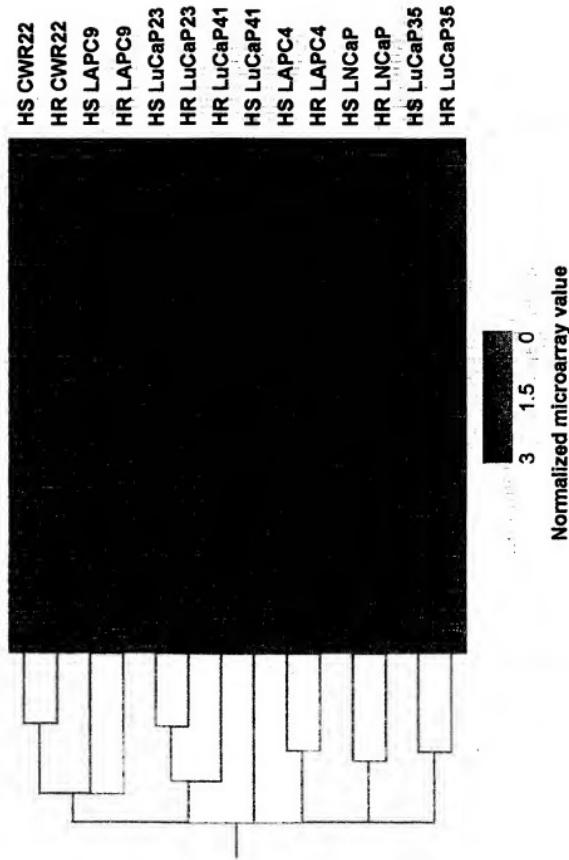
## Figure 6



# Supplementary Figure 1

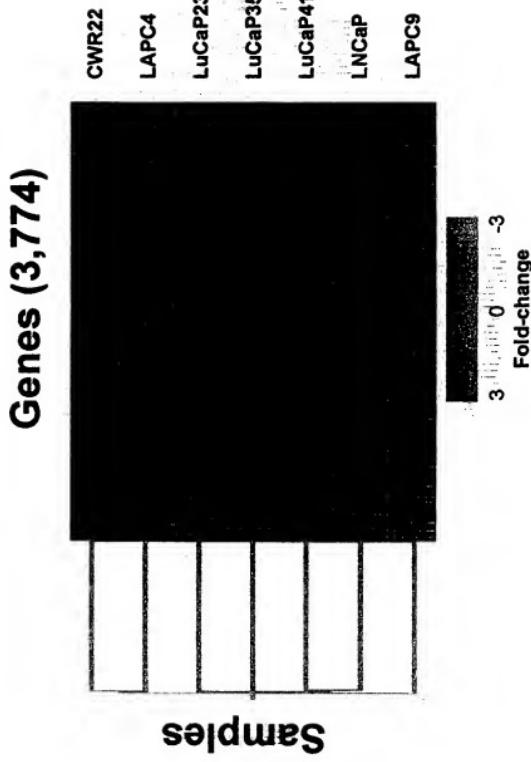
a

Genes (1,056)



## Supplementary Figure 1

b



# Supplementary Figure 1

C

Gene Name (Acc. No.)	<u>CWR22</u>	<u>LuCaP23</u>	<u>LuCaP35</u>	<u>LuCaP41</u>	<u>LNCaP</u>	<u>LAPC4</u>	<u>LAPC9</u>	Score
Androgen receptor (M23263)	2.5 (I)	3.1 (I)	3.1 (I)	3.6 (I)	2.7 (I)	2.3 (I)	2.2 (I)	7.0
Androgen receptor (M23263)	2.0 (I)	3.1 (I)	2.7 (I)	6.0 (I)	2.0 (I)	1.3 (NC)	1.4 (NC)	5.0
Carbonic anhydrase precursor (AF037335)	1.8 (I)	1.4 (NC)	-1.2 (NC)	4.7 (I)	3.7 (I)	1.1 (NC)	1.5 (I)	4.0
Elongation factor 1 alpha-2 (X70940)	-1.1 (I)	-1.2 (NC)	1.7 (I)	1.1 (I)	1.0 (NC)	1.3 (I)	-1.3 (NC)	4.0
HLA class I locus C heavy chain (X58536)	1.9 (I)	1.1 (NC)	1.1 (NC)	2.5 (I)	1.7 (I)	1.1 (NC)	4.4 (I)	4.0
Platelet-type Phosphofructokinase (D25328)	-3.3 (MD)	-1.8 (D)	-2.7 (D)	-2.4 (D)	-2.2 (D)	1.7 (NC)	1.2 (NC)	-4.5
Secreted cement gland Protein XAG-2 homolog (AF038451)	-10.7 (D)	-1.7 (D)	1.7 (NC)	-2.9 (D)	-2.5 (D)	-3.2 (D)	1.9 (I)	-4.0
Slow MyBP-C (X73114)	-4.1 (D)	-3.8 (D)	-1.5 (NC)	-3.7 (D)	-1.2 (NC)	-1.8 (D)	-1.2 (NC)	-4.0

## Supplementary Figure 2

Affy ID	GenBank ID	Gene Name
212005	AL582808	DKFZP586C0424 protein
213017	NM_138340	alhydrase domain containing 3
201662	D89053.1	Acy-CoA synthetase 3
216323	XM_054284	alpha-tubulin isotype H2-alpha
211689	AF270487.1	androgen-regulated serine protease (TMPRSS2)
205102	NM_005656	BCL5
215990	SE7779.1	calpain 7
203356	NM_014296	CASP8 associated protein 2
222201	AB037736.1	chromosome 1 open reading frame 21 (C1ORF21)
221222	NM_030806.1	DKFZP434D146 protein
222121	NM_015595	DKFZP434J214 protein
212885	NM_015508	endozepine
209369	M15887.1	F1509-binding protein 5 (FKBP5)
204580	NM_004117.1	general transcription factor II
210892	BC004472.1	hypothetical protein FLJ12752
219312	NM_023929.1	hypothetical protein MGC4309
219476	NM_024115.1	kallikrein 2 (KLK2)
210399	BC005196.1	kallikrein 2 (KLK2)
209854	NM_005591	kallikrein 3/prostate specific antigen (PSA/KLK3)
204583	U17040.1	kallikrein 3/prostate specific antigen (PSA/KLK3)
204582	NM_001648	KIAA0056 protein
212799	XM_186291	KIAA0575 gene product (KIAA0575)
205862	NM_014668.1	lysosome-associated membrane glycoprotein (lamp A)
201551	J03263.1	

Affy ID	GenBank ID	Gene Name
206205	NM_022782.1	M-phase phosphoprotein 9 (MPHOSPH9)
221985	NM_022782	M-phase phosphoprotein 9 (MPHOSPH9)
208309	NM_008785.1	mucosa associated lymphoid tissue lymphoma translocation gene 1 (MAL/T1)
214087	NM_002465	myosin binding protein C, slow type
211548	J05594..1	NAD+-dependent 15-hydroxyprostaglandin dehydrogenase (PDGH)
205040	NM_000607.1	orosomucoid 1 (ORM1)
205041	NM_000607.1	orosomucoid 1 (ORM1)
220954	NM_013440.1	pained immunoglobulin-like receptor beta (PILR(BETA))
206178	NM_000929.1	phospholipase A2, group V (PLA2G5)
214443	NM_008505.1	poliovirus receptor (PVR)
218782	NM_014108.1	PRO2000 protein (PRO2000)
205924	BC005035.1	RAB8B
201975	NM_002956.1	restin (Reed-Steinberg cell-expressed intermediate filament-associated protein) (RSN)
201662	NM_003104	sorbitol dehydrogenase (SORD)
216920	M27331.1	T cell receptor gamma-chain
215806	M13231.1	T-cell receptor aberrantly rearranged gamma-chain
209813	M16768.1	T-cell receptor gamma chain V(J)-CII-CIII region
211144	M30894..1	T-cell receptor T1 rearranged gamma-chain
201108	NM_003246	thrombospondin 1
222218	AK022669.1	uncharacterized bone marrow protein BM039
219555	NM_018455	uncharacterized bone marrow protein BM039 (BM039)
219551	NM_018456.1	uncharacterized bone marrow protein BM040 (BM040)
209053	BE793789	Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome candidate 1 /FL=gb:AF083389.1
209309	D90427.1	zinc-alpha2-glycoprotein

## Supplementary Figure 3

